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REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of 29 January 2004. Claims 16-26 are pending in the application, and Claims 16-26 have been rejected.

By this amendment, arguments traversing the rejections under both 35 USC 112, first paragraph, and 35 USC 103(a) are presented.

No new matter has been added.

In view of the remarks below, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination.

About The Invention

The present invention relates generally to electronic documents, and more particularly relates to production and display of electronic documents in which text and script portions are exclusive from each other (i.e., segregated), and in which the script portion includes location dependent parameter identifiers along with location coordinates, which, together, direct various effects of the script to the specified location. In one further aspect of the present invention, the script portion (which excludes text, and includes location parameters) directs replacement of one or more elements of the text portion with predetermined other elements. In another further aspect of the present invention, the script portion and text portion are communicated, or transmitted, separately.

Rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph

Claims 16-26 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner alleges that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. More particularly, the Examiner states that the limitation "wherein providing the first text portion and the first script portion to an application that lacks a capability for formatting the first text portion in accordance with the first script portion results in the display of the first text portion" is not enabled by the specification.

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For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, and requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

Firstly, even without resort to Applicant's specification, it is unquestionably well-known that text processing applications (e.g., text editors) have been available and well understood in this field for decades. Any of one of such text processing applications is an example of "an application that lacks a capability for formatting the first text portion in accordance with the first script portion" because, as is well-known, these are plain text editing programs, or applications, and not script processing programs, or applications. It is further undeniably well-known that HTML programming was developed subsequent to the much earlier introduced plain text editors. Finally, it is Applicant's claimed invention which provides the means for a non-script-processing-capable application, to receive an electronic document that contains both text and script, and to create a display from that electronic document that is easy to read since, in accordance with the invention (as claimed), the script has been segregated from the text and that segregated script is provided in a way such that it is not displayed. Without Applicant's claimed invention, typical electronic documents that combine text and script produce virtually unreadable displays when displayed by an application that lacks script processing capability. Applicant traverses the Examiner's allegation that one of ordinary skill in the field of information processing and encoding of script information in electronic documents and files, would not be enabled to provide an application that lacks a capability to process the embedded script. Clearly, one of ordinary skill in the field of information processing and encoding of script information in electronic documents and files, would be enabled in view of Applicant's specification to provide, for example, a non-HTML compatible text editor. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection, or make of record the basis for the allegation that one of ordinary skill in the field of information processing and encoding of script information in electronic documents and files could not provide an application that lacks a capability for script processing (e.g., one of the many ubiquitous non-HTML compatible text editors in existence over at least the past three decades).

Secondly, and now referring to pag s 1-3 of Applicant's specification, a

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d tailed background is provided that describes HTML programming to produce interactive electronic documents which are formatted in accordance with embedded script. At page 2, lines 12-23, Applicant specifically describes the problem of non-HTML compatible applications trying to display files that include HTML's embedded script and producing difficult to read displays, since such non-HTML compatible applications do not include that facility, or capability, to interpret the embedded script instructions. These pages further go on to describe prior art attempts to solve this problem such as the use MIME encoded documents and files, however once again, a non-MIME enabled text editor, or similar document processing program, will display the embedded control information making the display difficult to read.

The Examiner states that Applicant's specification has been carefully read and in particular page 4 of the specification has been read because page 4 of the specification is mentioned on page 8 of Applicant's previously filed response. Applicant respectfully redirects the Examiner's attention to the previously filed response wherein, with respect to the amendment of Claim 16, it is stated that "[s]upport for this amendment can be found generally throughout the specification, and can more particularly be found at page 4 of the specification." Applicant respectfully asserts that the remarks provided above clearly show that Claim 16 is fully supported by the specification in general, just as stated in the previously filed response, regardless of the Examiner's characterization of page 4, lines 2-5 of the specification.

In view of the foregoing review of the disclosure of Applicant's specification, it is clear that applications are known that are non-HTML compatible, non-JAVASCRIPT compatible, or non-MIME compatible. Applicant respectfully asserts that the specification makes the meaning of "an application that lacks a capability" for formatting in accordance with embedded script, clear to any person of ordinary skill in the field of information processing and encoding of script information in electronic documents and files. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully asserts that any such person of ordinary skill in this field is enabled to make and/or use the claimed invention.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant asserts that the rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph are improper and should be withdrawn.

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Rejections under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 16-26 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Freund, Jim ("HotDog Professional 5.1 Webmaster Suite: HotDog 5.1 Cuts the Mustard", 11/1998, Computer Shopper, Vol. 18, No. 11, pages 1-2) in view of Business Wire, "HotDog powers Web authors to new heights", 10/1996, pages 1-2), further in view of Powers, et al., (US Patent 6,362,817), and further in view of Simpson, Alan, "Mastering WordPerfect 5.1 and 5.2 for Windows", 1993, SYBEX Inc., pages 74-81, 108-109, 148-150, and 944-945.

For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of Claims 16-26 under 35 USC 103(a) and requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 16-26 are directed to a method of producing an electronic document wherein various aspects of the present invention include providing separate text and script portions, each of those portions being exclusive of the other; the script portion including at least one location dependent parameter identifier, and that an electronic document is produced which, when the first text portion and the first script portion are provided to an application that lacks a capability for formatting the first text portion in accordance with the first script portion, results in the display of the first text portion.

The Freund reference discloses an HTML editor and the display of a web page. The Freund reference does not disclose providing a first text portion exclusive of script as the Examiner suggests. Freund discloses an HTML compatible browser that can interpret the embedded control script to produce a displayed version of an electronic document. The "first text portion exclusive of script" that the examiner refers to is the result of displaying a document by a browser under the direction of embedded script commands. Such a display is not the same as Applicant's claimed method of producing an electronic document in which text and script are segregated.

The Business Wire reference discloses an HTML editor and the use of Java Script. The Business Wire reference does not disclose a method of producing a document that, when displayed by an application lacking the ability to process embedded script commands, displays an easy to read text message without

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embedded script commands. Rather, the business Wire reference discloses a capability, which is built in to the HotDog web page editing software, that allows viewing the results of script commands. That capability is called ROVER. The statement in Business Wire that a browser does not need to be started is simply referring to the fact that the ROVER viewer, which performs the same function as a browser, is already available in the HotDog application software and therefore a separate browser application program is not required. Applicant directs the Examiner's attention the reference Freund, Jim, "Barking up the right HTML tree (Sausage Software's HotDog Professional 3.0 editing tool for websites)", 02/1997, Computer Shopper, vol. 17, No. 2. This reference was cited by the Examiner on Form PTO-892 as part of Paper No. 8, in the Office Action dated 13 August 2003. This Freund reference clearly states on page 2, in the paragraph bracketed by the Examiner, that Rover is a browser. In fact this paragraph further goes on to say that "Rover can also browse the Web and give you quick access to the code on the pages you're perusing." Applicant respectfully asserts that the disclosure of ROVER in the Business Wire reference clearly does not relate to Applicant's claimed invention. All of the software disclosed in these references is related to processing electronic documents by processing the embedded script in them and thereby formatting any accompanying text in accordance with those script commands. None of these references deal with Applicant's claimed subject matter wherein an electronic document is produced that includes exclusive, segregated, text and script portions in an electronic document such that when processed by an application that does understand those script commands, a nicely formatted text display can be achieved.

Applicant respectfully asserts that neither Freund nor Business Wire, alone or in combination, produce the invention defined by Claims 16-26, which require a text portion exclusive of script, a script portion exclusive of text, the script portion further including location dependent parameter identifiers, and wherein the text and script portions are provided in a manner such that when presented to an application that lacks a capability to interpret or process the script commands, the text portion, unaffected by the script commands, is displayed. Such a display is in an easy to read format, unencumbered by integrated script commands. There is no motivation in these references to produce Applicant's claimed invention. Both the Freund and

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Business Wire disclosures are provided in the context of an HTML editor.

Applicant's invention addresses the problems faced by application programs such as e-mail programs or text processors, which were designed for text messages, and lack the processing capability for embedded scripts. In other words, an HTML editor inherently does not have the problem which Applicant's claimed invention solves. Therefore it is understandable why the articles about HTML editors do not provide motivation for Applicant's claimed invention.

The Examiner admits that Freund, Business Wire, and Powers do not explicitly disclose the limitation "wherein providing the first text portion and the first script portion to an application that lacks a capability for formatting the first text portion in accordance with the first script portion results in the display of the first text portion". However, the Examiner states that Simpson teaches a document window with an upper section that shows a regular text portion and a bottom section that shows text with visible codes, wherein the user has the ability to edit the text document and view the codes at the same time. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to combine Simpson with Freund, Business Wire, and Powers "to provide for the user to edit codes of the text document without the application's help, as taught by Simpson," "in order to aid the formatting problems of the user's document".

Notwithstanding the Examiner's characterization of Simpson, Applicant respectfully asserts that the disclosure of Simpson has nothing to do with Applicant's claimed invention. After careful review, Applicant notes that Simpson discloses an electronic document that has intermixed text and control codes (i.e., text and embedded control information); and software that interprets that embedded control information in order to produce a formatted display. This is no different than a browser interpreting HTML tags to format the text with which it is intermixed. The disclosure of Simpson has no bearing on Applicant's claimed invention. The Examiner's assertion that it would have been obvious to combine Simpson with Freund, Business Wire, and Powers "to provide for the user to edit codes of the text document without the application's help, as taught by Simpson," "In order to aid the formatting problems of the user's document" is meaningless in relation to Applicant's claim language. Firstly, Applicant's claimed invention requires an electronic document in which the text and script are segregated and exclusive of each other.

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This requirement is not met, motivated, or remotely suggested by Simpson. Secondly Applicant's claimed invention is not directed to editing hidden codes. Rather, the claimed invention requires that script, be separated from the text, which allows for the text to be displayed without giving affect to any such script or codes when processed by an application program that lacks the capability of processing such script. Applicant respectfully asserts that no aspect of the claimed invention is taught by the disclosure of Simpson.

Independent Claim 16 makes clear that an electronic document is produced which, when the first text portion and the first script portion are provided to an application that lacks a capability for formatting the first text portion in accordance with the first script portion, results in the display of the first text portion, unaffected by the contents of the first script portion.

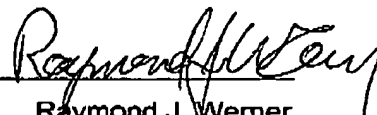
In view of at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits the invention defined by Claim 16 is neither disclosed, suggested, or motivated, by Freund, Business Wire, Powers, and Simpson, whether taken singularly or in combination. Therefore the rejection of Claim 16 in view of the combination of Freund, Business Wire, Powers, and Simpson should be withdrawn. Similarly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 17-26, which depend directly or indirectly from independent Claim 16, are also unobvious in view of the cited references.

Conclusion

All of the rejections in the Office Action of 29 January 2004 have been responded to, and Applicant respectfully submits that the pending Claims 16-26 are in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Portland, Oregon